

9 January 1852

My dear Professor

You may well be surprised at receiving no letter from me, and no acknowledgment of the parcel you have sent me. The fact is that in August last I had a note from the Secretary of the Smithsonian, apprising me of the package as having been directed to me at the Museum in Florence; receiving nothing, after some time I enquired at the Museum, and then at all the public offices that could possibly know something of the business, and at last wrote to Mr. Bell' Aquas, the agent of the Smithsonian in Milan, from whom I had no answer — and now poor fellow there is no more applying to him, as I have just seen in the papers that he has been found dead in one of the canals in

Milan, and to all appearances ~~undisturbed~~.
I regret the more this deficiency in the
communications with America by means
of the Smithsonian, as I too have a
book which I very much wish to send
you (a work on the geographical botany
of Germany) and don't know how to do
it, I dare not trust it to the post,
as once it happened to me that a parcel
of books sent to Dr. Engelmann, tho'
prepaid here by me, was charged to him
at a preposterous rate, several dollars
I believe.

My waiting month after month
for the parcel has also been the reason
for which I have not written to you
as yet, to inform you of the sudden and
most welcome change in my position
which took place in the spring of last
year, by my being appointed to the
professorship of botany in the University

here in the directorship of the botanic
gardens, since October I am established
here with my family. Tho' Pisa is a
small town, not to be compared to Florence
for its resources, yet we are very well
off under other respects, myself especially,
as I have plenty of work to my liking,
sufficient materials for study, and
a position amongst the best to be had
in Italy in our branch.

M. Bressani, whom you no doubt
recollect, has again left Italy for the
Indian Archipelago, with the intention
of visiting New Guinea. He has left
me the management of the Italian journal
of botany.

I hope my dear Professor to hear
from you ere long, and to have satis-
factory news of the health of Mrs.
Gray, to whom I beg to be respectfully
remembered. With my best regards I
remain
Yours sincerely
S. Carnel

P. G. If in my present abode I may be
of any use to you in a botanical or any
other way, pray reckon on my best
endeavours.